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SWARTHOUT PRAISES DEFENSE IN VICTORY OVER CAL POLY

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University of Montana coach Jack Swarthout lauded the Grizzly's offensive line and the "team effort" on defense in the 38-14 win over Cal Poly at San Luis Obispo Saturday.

"This was their best game," the coach said. He acknowledged the blocking efforts of center Ray Stachnik, guards Barry Darrow and Willie Postler, tackles Steve Okoniewski and John Lugviel, and tight end Cliff Burnett. "The backs ran hard, as usual," Swarthout added. That all added up to 411 yards rushing yardage, the team's best in three games.

Cal Poly, led by quarterback Steve Bresnahan, had rolled up 504 yards offense in an 18-14 loss to Boise State the week before. Bresnahan had completed 18 of 38 passes in that game for 338 yards, but the Montana defense held him to just 9 of 18 for 85 yards. Montana safety Mick Dennehy interceded two of Bresnahan's aeriels, returning one 20 yards for a touchdown in the third quarter.

Grizzly defense coach Charley Armey praised the defensive secondary, and particularly Dennehy for directing Montana's defenses. Cornerbacks Robin Peters, Dean Dempsey, and safeties Bob Guptill and Dennehy repeatedly knocked down Bresnahan's accurate tosses. Armey also singled out the nearly flawless play of the defensive ends, Leo La Roche, and Greg Maloney. He pointed out that the defensive tackles, Gary Swearingen and Rick Anderson along with middle linebacker Dennis Doyle effectively plugged Cal Poly's inside rushing game. "And outside linebackers Bill Stearns, Bruce Spencer and Terry Pugh were in the right spots most of the time," Armey noted.

Except for a 28-yard run by Bresnahan, the longest Mustang rush was only 11 yards.

Bresnahan's keepers around tackle accounted for 64 yards in the first half, but the Grizzlies switched from their 4-3-4 pro-defense to a 6-2-3 alignment and held the quick-stepping quarterback to only 38 yards in the second half.

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The Mustangs could muster only two sustained drives, one of 74 yards in 11 plays for a touchdown late in the second quarter, the other against Grizzly reserves with 1:36 left in the game.

Montana's leading ground gainer, halfback Steve Caputo, scored the Grizzly's first two touchdowns, on sweeps of 2 and 76 yards after taking nitchouts from quarterback Gary Berding. Caputo rushed for 138 of the 184 yards Montana made in the first half. He finished as the game's leading runner with 173 yards. For the season, the hard-running halfback has 426 yards and is averaging 6.8 yards a carry.

A bright spot in the Montana offense was the 100-yard rushing performance by freshman Buddy Walsh of Butte Central in the second half. Walsh, filling in for the injured Jeff Hoffmann at fullback, hit hard between the tackles all game, and finished with 135 yards. He scored the Grizzly's third TD on a 7-yard run midway in the third quarter, and set up the final Montana TD with a 68-yard gallop up the middle.

Quarterback Berding directed the Montana attack on the ground, and didn't throw a pass until late in the third quarter. Sophomore signal-caller Jay Baumburger took over early in the last stanza.

Bob Turnquist booted all five extra points for Montana, and completed the Grizzly scoring with a 37-yard field goal halfway through the fourth quarter.

The Grizzlies' next foe, Idaho, is the conference opener for the Big Sky defending champs, Saturday at Dornblaser field. Game time is 1:30 p.m. The Vandals shut out Colorado State 10-0 last week, and Montana coach Don Nord who scouted the game says Idaho has a strong defense. ^{Their} / two fine runners, Fred Riley and Frank Doctor, rushed for 102 and 116 yards, respectively, against Colorado.

"They'll be pointing for us," Swarthout said. The nationally-ranked Grizzlies will be seeking their 24th consecutive regular season victory, and the game will be Dad's Day.

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SCORES: 3-0 UM 14, USD 7
 UM 27, UND 14
 UM 38, CAL POLY 14

TEAM STATISTICS	UM	OPP	PASSING	Att	Comp	Pct	Int	Yds	Tds
First Downs	48	46	Berding	17	5	.294	4	53	0
Rush	44	25	Baumburger	8	0	0	1	0	0
Pass	1	17							
Penalty	3	4							
Rush Plays	194	129							
Rush Yards	1,220	523							
Rush Yards Lost	106	90							
NET RUSH	1,106	411							
Pass Attempts	25	64							
Pass Completes	5	28							
Passes Intercepted	5	9							
NET YARDS PASS	23	267							
*Punts/Yds/Blkd	14/569/0	17/625/0							
Punt Average	40.7	36.8							
Fumbles/lost	10/4	11/4							
Penalties/yds	23/214	16/134							
Touchdowns	11	5							
Rush	9	3							
Pass	0	1							
Other	2	1							
PAT Kick	10/11	5/5							
PAT Run/Pass	0/0	0/0							
Field Goals	1/1	0/1							
Total Points	79	35							
INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Tds.					
Sterns	3	10	3.3	0					
Peters	2	35	17.5	1					
Dempsey	2	2	1	0					
Dennehy	2	20	10	1					
					RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Tds.
					Walker	1	15	15.0	0
					Olson	1	9	9.0	0
					Welch	1	9	9	0
					Hoffmann	2	-10	-10	0
					TOTALS OFFENSE	Plays	Rush	Pass	Total
					Caputo	62	426	---	253
					Reilly	44	253	---	211
					Berding	45	108	19	98
					Hoffmann	21	131	---	131
					Olson	2	8	---	8
					Kottke	12	32	---	10
					Walsh	20	142	---	7
					Welch	1	--	9	9
					Baumburger	13	6	0	6
					Totals	219	1,106	28	1,134
					PUNT RETURNS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Tds
					Olson	5	30	6	0
					Dennehy	1	2	2	0
					Kottke	1	0	0	0
					KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	Tds
					Olson	3	3	10	0
					Caputo	1	16	16	0
					Kottke	2	29	14.5	0
					Reilly	2	0	0	0

SCORING	Tds.	R	P	K	FG	Pts.
Caputo	2	2	0	0	0	12
Berding	3	3	0	0	0	18
Turnquist	0	0	0	10/11	1/1	13
Hoffmann	3	3	0	0	0	18
Peters	1	1	0	0	0	6
Dennehy	1	1	0	0	0	6
Walsh	1	1	0	0	0	6

RUSH	TC	YG	YL	NET	AVG	TDS
Caputo	62	440	14	426	6.8	2
Reilly	44	275	22	253	5.7	0
Berding	28	143	35	108	3.8	3
Hoffmann	21	131	0	131	6.2	3
Olson	2	16	8	8	4	0
Kottke	12	35	3	32	2.7	0
Walsh	20	142	0	142	7.1	1
Baumburger	5	6	0	6	1.2	0
TOTALS	194	1,188	82	1,106	4.7	9

*Error made last week